

EQUIPMENT NEWS



Further Fergies

The latest Ferguson camcorder is a follow-up to the ultra-compact F801. The F802 (we should have guessed!) is a lightweight 8mm camcorder with a 8x macro zoom and full auto mode. For the more advanced user it has manual exposure mode, five shutter speed options, flying erase head for smooth editing, programmable fader, audio dubbing and mixing and quick review of recorded material. Best of all it's just £650, putting it amongst the leaders in the expanding budget camcorder league.

Green With NV

The Panasonic NV-G1 has to be a winner. Not only does it boast features like an 8x power zoom lens, variable high speed shutters and 3 lux minimum shooting capacity but it comes in at a bargain £599.95 so don't be green, grab yourself an NV!

Frankly Canon

It had to come - when your 8x zoom lens isn't enough, how do you get more oomph out of your camcorder? With the Canon EX1 Hi, you just change lenses. Like an SLR still camera, the EX1 Hi allows you to choose the lens for the occasion - there are two compatible with the special VL mount so far, an 8x zoom and a 15x zoom, both with auto-focus and exposure, and there's also a 2x convertor. Using the optional EOS Adaptor VL, you can also use lenses from the EOS range of still cameras. The Hi-8 format EX1 Hi features digital effects like picture overlap, freeze and enlarge, a character generator and wireless remote control. With prices starting at £1399, it's clearly aimed at advanced amateurs, semi-pros and those with some dosh to chuck around!